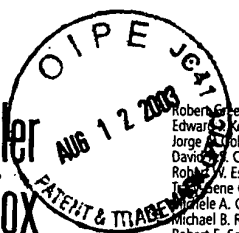




**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward Kessler
Jorge Goldstein
David J. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
John E. G. Durkin
Michael A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millionig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa S. Weaver
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaton
Kimberly N. Reddick

Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chalker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Rodney G. Maze
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller
Jon E. Wright*
LuAnne M. Yuricek*

John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gabby L. Longworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa
Teresa A. Colella

Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford
Eric D. Hayes

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

August 12, 2003

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

(202) 772-8589

INTERNET ADDRESS:

LARRYB@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit To Be Assigned

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 10/600,581; Filed: June 23, 2003
For: **Molecular Detection Systems Utilizing Reiterative Oligonucleotide Synthesis**
Inventors: Michelle M. Hanna
Our Ref: 2072.0010002/LBB/SJE

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 (1 sheet citing 4 documents); and
3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 35,086

LBB/SJE/lam
Enclosures

::ODMA\HODMA\SKGF_DC1;165659;1

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skGF.com